

NEWS RELEASE

Alabama Department of Public Safety

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Troopers Safely Recover Three Missing Children, Non-custodial Parents Arrested

Recovery Made Thanks to Alert Driver License Examiners

MONTGOMERY – Alabama state troopers Wednesday safely recovered three Indiana children, missing since they were taken by their non-custodial parents Dec. 31, 2004. Troopers also arrested the children's mother and her husband, wanted on felony warrants in Indiana and Georgia.

Recovered in Tuscaloosa Wednesday afternoon were Jayce Cournoyer, 2, his brother, Kamryn Cournoyer, 1, and their 4-month-old half-brother, Preston Lovely. State troopers, assisted by a Tuscaloosa County deputy, arrested Michael Lovely, 23, and Haley Lovely, 21, in Tuscaloosa on charges of auto theft and forgery. The two were taken to the Tuscaloosa County Jail, and the children were placed in the care of the Department of Human Resources.

The children's recovery and the two arrests stem from Haley Lovely's application for an Alabama identification card at the Tuscaloosa Driver License office Monday, according to Department of Public Safety Director Col. W.M. Coppage.

Driver License Examiner I Carolyn Spain and Driver License Supervisor Margaret Watson discovered the outstanding warrants for Haley and Michael Lovely after running a background check on Haley Lovely. The Tuscaloosa State Trooper Post then issued a lookout for the two. On Wednesday, Haley Lovely returned to the driver license office, where troopers arrested her after she was recognized by Spain and Watson. She then led troopers to a car parked nearby, where Michael Lovely was waiting with the children.

Coppage commended Spain and Watson for their "pivotal work in the safe recovery of these three children. Thanks to them, the children are safe and sound again." Coppage said Alabama is one of only three states that conduct background and Social Security checks on all applicants for driver licenses and identification cards.

Haley and Michael Lovely and the children have been sought by police since Dec. 31, 2004. According to the Kokomo, Ind., Police Department, the children were considered in danger due to past abuse allegations and because Haley Lovely did not have custody of the two older children. It was believed that she fled with her estranged husband, Michael Lovely, who is under court order to stay away from Haley and the children. The Lovelys and the three children were featured on America's Most Wanted and were the subject of a missing child media alert last week in Georgia.

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